

**IS ETHNOSYMBOLISM WORKABLE IN CONSTRUCTIVE PERSPECTIVE? (AN ATTEMPT
FOR AN ANSWER BASED ON THE DYNAMICS OF THE BULGARIAN TERRITORIAL
IDENTITY)**

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Abstract

The paper suggests using the potential of the ethnosymbolic approach to nation and identity as an instrument for revealing the mechanisms in the process of their formation and development. The author believes that this approach could be successfully applied in constructivist context by combining the ideas and logic of the historical continuity of the symbols of ethnic union, on the one hand, and the modern dynamics of their political mobilization, on the other hand. The paper describes the evolution of one of these symbols as an element of the dynamic ethnic identity – the sense of territorial affiliation, and the possibilities for studying the changes in its content through the terms in which it is embodied and expressed.